



CHARLES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE

March 1st

Ash Wednesday

March 12th

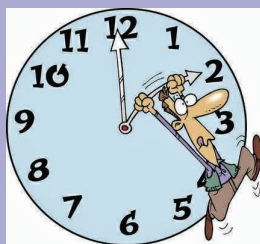
Daylight Saving
time begins

March 20th

Spring begins

April 1st

April Fool's Day



WATCH WORKS

SHERIFF TROY BERRY

MARCH 2017

Walker's Safety

Walk in high pedestrian

traffic areas: Bad guys don't want witnesses. Being in view of a well-traveled street is good, but having people on the path with you is better.

Open Areas: Paths lined with bushes and trees are pleasant for walking, but many hiding places for the bad guys and places they can take you to finish their crimes out of view. Try and stay in open areas where you can see them coming.

Deterrents: Strangers aren't out to attack YOU. It's nothing personal, they are just looking for a target of

opportunity. Your goal is to look like somebody who will be too much trouble to mess with.

Attitude: Keep your head up and stride purposefully. Look around your surroundings and be aware of them.

Companions: Walking with a friend or group reduces your chance of attack significantly.

Walking with a dog: even a little ankle-biter will greatly reduce the chance of attack. Obey all licensing, leash, and poop ordinances in the jurisdiction you are walking through.

Stick: Why mess with somebody with a walking/hiking stick when there are lots of people without one?

Alarm: A brightly colored personal body alarm can be a deterrent when visibly worn. Bad guys don't want to attract attention. A whistle is also a good signal device.

Pepper Spray: Carrying this in your hand or visibly displayed may be a deterrent.



Keep these numbers handy

EMERGENCY DIAL 911
CHARLES COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE NON
-EMERGENCY: 301-932-
2222

LA PLATA POLICE: 301-
934-1500

MARYLAND STATE PO-

LICE: 301-392-1200 OR 301
-753-1200

NATURAL RESOURCES
POLICE: 1-800-628-9944

CHARLES COUNTY
24HR INFORMATION:
301:645-0600

CHARLES COUNTY

PUBLIC SCHOOLS: 24
HOUR INFORMATION 301-
934-7410 OR 301-932-6656

POISON CONTROL: 1-
800-222-1222

MARYLAND STATE
HIGHWAY (La Plata) 301-
934-8031



Crazy Weather

Yes, it was another tornado, and in February. You never know when the weather will turn bad. The first step in staying safe is to stay tuned to the latest forecasts.

What to do during a thunderstorm:

Indoors:

- ◆ Stay off the phone.
- ◆ Stay away from windows.
- ◆ Know where your flashlights are if the power goes out.
- ◆ Discontinue use of phones and electrical equipment. You might also want to unplug appliances and computers.
- ◆ Avoid taking a shower or bath. If lightning strikes

your house it may send a current of electricity across metal plumbing throughout the house.

While driving:

- ◆ Reduce speed.
- ◆ Do not pull off onto the side of the road. Pull into a parking lot or away from the roadway.
- ◆ Remain in the car until the storm passes.
- ◆ Avoid driving on roads covered by water.

Outdoors:

Stay low.

- ◆ If possible, find shelter in a building.
- ◆ Keep away from

trees, tall objects, metal objects and water.

- ◆ Boaters and swimmers should get to land as soon as possible.
- ◆ If you're in a group caught outside, spread out.

Dangers associated with thunderstorms can include lightning, hail, heavy rain, flooding, strong winds associated with downbursts, microbursts and tornadoes. According to the National Weather Service, a thunderstorm is classified severe when winds reach, or exceed 57.5 mph or produces hail three-quarters of an inch in diameter or larger.

CCSO
CUMMUNITY
ORGANIZER
CONNIE GRAY
 301-932-3080
grayc@ccso.us

Crime Watch Kickoff

Crime Watch Kickoff for 2017 will be held on March 22nd at the American Legion in La Plata at 7:00 P.M.

There will be a presentation given by Ray-

mond Hanna, Protective Security Advisor, Protective Security and Coordination Division, U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The presentation is

titled See something, Say something/Active Shooter and should have lots of useful information for this ever changing world we live in. See you there!

Clean out the Winter



Everyone is ready for a fresh start in the spring, even Mother Nature. We are ready to clean up the debris that has accumulated in the yard, the basement, storage sheds and garages over the winter.

- Remove all fire hazards, including rags, newspapers and magazines. Pay special attention to the spaces around your furnace, hot water tank, fireplace, space heaters and dryer.
- Mark all household and pool chemicals, paints and poisons. Mark and store under lock and key, away from children's reach. Dispose of any that are leaking or look bad.
- When cleaning up hazardous chemicals, wear rubber gloves and follow safety directions on the packaging. Never mix

chemicals in the same container. Check with your local government to see how to dispose of them. Never put them in the trash or pour them down the drain.

Getting the yard into shape for the summer:

- Always wear protective clothing when you handle pesticides and fertilizers.
- Never operate a mower in your bare feet and avoid wearing loose clothing.
- Never start a mower indoors.
- Refuel your mower when the engine is off and cool. Don't spill gasoline on a hot engine and don't smoke while pouring gasoline.
- Check your yard for stones and loose debris before mowing.
- Never leave your mower unattended.
- Don't use electrical mowers on wet grass.

Barbecue Safety:

- When using barbecue grills always be sure to leave sufficient space from siding and eaves.
- Always supervise a barbecue grill when in use.
- Keep children and pets far away from grills.

- With gas grills, be sure that the hose connection is tight and check hoses carefully for leaks.
- Charcoal grills, only use charcoal starter fluids designed for grills and don't add fluid after coals have been lit.

Scooter, bike and Pedestrian Safety:

- Always wear your helmet. Be sure that the helmet is the right size and fit.
- Only ride during daylight hours.
- Make sure your bike is in good condition. Check tires, handle bars and seat position.
- Learn the proper hand signals and use them when you turn or stop.
- Come to a complete stop before entering driveways, paths or sidewalks, then look left, right and left again for bikes, cars or pedestrians heading your way.
- Teach crossing safety to children by example.

If nothing else get outside to greet your neighbors and enjoy the weather.



Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush." – Doug Larson





Charles County Sheriff's Office

6915 Crain highway
P.O. Box 189
La Plata, MD 20646

(301)932-2222

MISSION STATEMENT

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CHARLES COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE ARE DEDICATED TO SERVICE THROUGH SUPERIOR PERFORMANCE. WE BELIEVE MUTUAL RESPECT, TRUST AND PRIDE IN OUR ORGANIZATION, COMBINED WITH TRADITIONAL VALUES AND INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES, WILL ENSURE THE COMMUNITY'S RIGHT TO A SAFE ENVIRONMENT.

Value Statements

LIFE We believe the protection of life is our highest priority.

RESPECT We believe in individual human dignity and the preservation of human rights under the rule and spirit of law, always treating others as we would like to be treated.

INTEGRITY We believe in maintaining the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest moral and ethical standards.

FAIRNESS We believe in the delivery of service that provides fair and equal treatment to all citizens without regard to age, gender, race, creed, color, religion or national origin.

TRUST We believe in order to provide effective service we must develop and maintain the confidence of the community.

PARTNERSHIPS We believe in working in partnership with the community and each other to identify and resolve

problems and issues which affect the safety of our citizens.

LOYALTY We believe in an allegiance to the community, to the organization and to each other.

PROFESSIONALISM We believe in delivering a level of service which will reflect the pride we have in our community and organization.



Charles County Sheriff's Office
Honor Guard.